

TEEN COURT:

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE ONE TEEN AT A TIME”

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

The concept of Teen Court, the involvement of youth in our alternative justice system, has been developed in many communities around the nation and has been a proven success. Teen Court requires the cooperation of local legal professionals, as well as the sponsoring organizations, police and sheriff departments, businesses, schools, churches, and the community as a whole in order for its success. In Lawrence County, we have had such cooperation leading to our extremely successful program.

We believe that our efforts do, in fact, assist juvenile offenders in recognizing responsibility for their actions and realizing that their decision to act in a delinquent manner rests completely upon themselves, and should in no instance be blamed on society.

Furthermore, we believe these individuals deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and that our involvement should be courteous and professional in order for the true success of our program.

Our ultimate goal is to educate and rehabilitate youth who make poor decisions and teach them to be accountable and responsible for their actions.